

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On Page 9, delete the first full paragraph and replace the paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

Goswami and Bernardi (1999) described nucleotide gene sequences of 16 S and 12 S genes of five myctophid species viz: *Tarletonbeania crenularis*; *Protomyctophum crockeri*; *Lampanyctus regalis*; *Diaphus theta*; *Stenobrachius leucosparus* in the National center of Biotechnology information GenBank. These sequences were published on 20 April, 1999 and can be screened at ~~http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/~~ www period ncbi period nlm period nih period gov Genbank databases. The respective accession numbers are AF134250; AF 134249; AF 134248; AF 134247; AF 134246; AF 134245; AF 134244; AF134243; AF 134242 and AF 134241.